

he is a member of the regionalists, a group of artists from the early to mid 20th century that attempted to represent a distinctly "American Art." Hartley is an icon among painters. He is considered one of the foremost American painters of the first half of the 20th century.

The State of Maine recognizes the great contribution of Lewiston's native son to the world of fine art. Governor John Baldacci has proclaimed September 25, 2008 as "Marsden Hartley Day." There will be a celebration of his work at Bates College, also located in Lewiston, Maine. There will be two screenings of "Visible Silence: Marsden Hartley, Painter and Poet," an essay in film by Michael Maglaras.

I rise today to honor Marsden Hartley for his contribution to the State of Maine and the United States.

HONORING DYLAN MARCUS  
LEGLER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Dylan Marcus Legler of Blue Springs, Missouri. Dylan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1138, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Dylan has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Dylan has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Dylan Marcus Legler for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING SOUTHEAST  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. BRALEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding results achieved by Southeast Elementary School in Waverly, Iowa by being named a 2008 No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon School.

The program honors elementary, middle and high schools that are superior academically or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement to high levels. Students at Southeast Elementary School ranked in the top 10 percent on state tests.

From 1997–2007 fourth grade reading proficiency in the Waverly-Shell Rock School District increased from 73–93 percent. During the 2006–2007 school year, all fourth graders reached proficiency in reading and math for which they earned this high honor.

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of Southeast Elementary and its Principal, Christi Lines. Despite the struggles they have faced due to unprece-

dent flooding that affected the school, they continue to be a model for elementary schools across the nation.

TRIBUTE TO JIM MCNEILL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jim McNeill, who was nominated and recognized as an "Iowa Community Hero" by the University of Iowa for his efforts in protecting the city of Adel from flood waters this summer.

The term "community hero" is defined by the person who is submitting the nomination form. In this case, Iowans can nominate their neighbor for helping move furniture to another level of a house, a volunteer who helped filled sand bags, or a member of the police and fire department. Jim is the police chief and is responsible for directing emergency operations within the city when the need arises. According to mayor Jim Peters, Chief McNeill "is a tremendous asset to Adel. He is a calm, direct, and charismatic leader in all situations. His work ethic and leadership is a true definition of 'community hero.'"

I congratulate Jim McNeill on his well-deserved award, and I'm certain that he will continue to serve his community. It is a great honor to represent Jim in the United States Congress, and I wish him the best.

COMMENDING THE FRATERNAL  
ORDER OF EAGLES ON ITS 110TH  
ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 23, 2008*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, 110 years ago, the Fraternal Order of Eagles, F.O.E., was founded in Seattle, in what is now the seventh Congressional District that I am privileged to represent. Since its founding, the F.O.E. has expanded to become an international organization with nearly 1 million members that raises and contributes more than \$100 million annually to charities benefiting children, health research, and the elderly. I rise today to commend the Eagles on their 110th anniversary, to highlight some of their many accomplishments, and to thank the Eagles for their good work over the last 110 years.

The Eagles have a long and proud history of living up to their motto, "people helping people." The Eagles were the first public advocates for establishing the Mother's Day holiday, were a driving force behind establishment of the Social Security System, and work to provide assistance to individuals in need in local communities across the United States and Canada. Just this year, the Eagles have partnered with the University of Iowa and committed to raise \$25 million to establish the Fraternal Order of Eagles Diabetes Research Center that will break new ground in efforts to both treat and prevent the spread of this terrible disease.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles was created in 1898 when six competing theater owners held a secret meeting at Moran's shipyard in Seattle to talk about a musicians' strike. By mid-1898, a constitution and by laws for the new organization had been adopted and the Grand Aerie established. Local F.O.E. chapters and the places that they meet are known as "Aeries."

Many of the early members of the Eagles were actors, playwrights, and stage hands who spread the word about the new fraternal organization as they toured from town to town across the U.S. and Canada. The incredible spread of the Eagles in the early years is largely attributable to these people. Eagle Aerie #1—the Mother Aerie—was established in Seattle in 1898, but some of the earliest Eagle aeries are located in: #8 San Jose, California, 1899; #11 Butte, Montana, 1899; #25 Skagway, Alaska, 1899; #33 St. Paul, Minnesota, 1899; #48 Galveston, Texas, 1900; and #42 Rochester, New York, 1900. By the end of 1903 just 5 years after the creation of the Eagles, there were nearly 600 Aeries operating in all corners of the U.S. and numerous locations in Canada. Today, Eagle membership totals about one million in about 1,500 individual local Aeries throughout the U.S. and Canada.

In addition to camaraderie the fraternity was established to serve a very important function. In the days before death benefits, workmen's comp, or health insurance, the Eagles offered a death benefit to the families of Eagles killed in the line of work to ensure proper burial, no Eagle has ever been buried in a potter's field, and Aeries had physicians who provided health care to members.

The Fraternal Order of Eagles Grand Auxiliary was adopted at the 1951 international convention in Rochester, NY. However, Auxiliaries date back to March 24, 1927 in Pittsburgh, KS. By March of 1951, 965 local Auxiliaries were in existence and by the end of that year 22 state and provincial Auxiliaries were operating.

The local state/provincial, regional and grand Auxiliaries have continued to grow and provide their importance to the Fraternal Order of Eagles by consistently serving as the strongest fundraising arm in the Organization. The Auxiliary, traditionally consisting of women, is a fully operating arm of the Fraternal Order of Eagles with equal positions of leadership.

In 1944, the Eagles Memorial Foundation was created. The Memorial Foundation supports children of members who die while serving their country, or at work. All Eagle members and their families are automatically protected by this member benefit. With the Memorial Foundation, children of deceased members who die while serving their country or at work are able to attend college or vocational school with grants up to \$30,000. They can also receive medical assistance including payments to physicians, dentists, orthodontists and hospitals. The cost of eyeglasses, prescriptions, as well as medical and dental devices is also included.

Over the years, the Eagles have also actively advocated at the national level for laws that help their fellow Americans. In the 1930s, the Eagles very actively organized to push for creation of the Social Security system. When the Social Security Act was signed in 1935, President Franklin Roosevelt (himself a lifelong Eagle), presented a pen with which he